

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/774,436

Applicant(s)

MUROTANI, KIICHIRO

Examiner

Craig A. Renner

Art Unit

2652

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to paper(s) filed 10 February 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 2.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 10 February 2004
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Craig A. Renner
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2652

Art Unit: 2627

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

IN THE TITLE:

The title has been amended to read as follows:

--DISK DRIVE WITH HOOK DISPOSED ON CLAMP ARM AND/OR
PLAYBACK BASE ENGAGING GROOVE FORMED IN FIXED BASE--.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The paragraph beginning at line 7 on page 9 and ending at line 28 on page 9 has been amended to read as follows:

When a driving mechanism not shown in the figure drives the cam gear 31 for the clamp arm, the three cam gears rotate in synchronization with one another. A pin 24a of the driving lever 24 engages with a cam groove 31a of the cam gear 31 for the clamp arm, and a movement of the driving lever 24, which is caused as a driving force by the cam groove 31a, makes the clamp arm 15 pivot, as previously mentioned. A pin 26a of

the slide plate 26 engages with a cam groove 32a of the cam gear 32 for the slide base, and a movement of the slide plate 26, which is caused as a driving force by the cam groove 32a, makes the lever 25 pivot and hence the slide base 13 slide, as previously mentioned. A pin 34a of a playback base pivoting lever 34 for making the playback base pivot engages with a groove 33a of the cam gear 33 for the playback base, and a movement of the playback base pivoting lever 34, which is caused as a driving force by the cam groove 33a, makes the playback base 14 pivot. By matching the timing of the pivoting operation of the clamp arm 15 with the timing of the sliding operation of the slide base 13 using the cam groove 31a of the cam gear 31 for the clamp arm and the cam groove 32a of the cam gear 32 for the slide base, the engagement hook 16 and the engagement groove 12 can be engaged with each other.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach nor suggest the disk drive as claimed, wherein an engagement hook is disposed on at least one of a playback base and a clamp arm such that the engagement hook engages with an engagement groove of a fixed base when the clamp arm pivots on a slide base so as to return to a standby position for waiting for a pivot while the slide base slides.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Craig A. Renner whose telephone number is (571) 272-7580. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday 9:00 AM - 7:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Craig A. Renner
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2652

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